

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A teleconferencing system comprising a conference bridge having a multichannel audio connection to each of a plurality of terminal equipments, each multichannel audio connection comprising a plurality of individual audio channels, and each of the terminal equipments receiving the individual audio channels through a respective one of the multichannel audio connections, each of the terminal equipments having means to separately process each received audio channel to provide a plurality of outputs, each output representing one of the other terminal equipments;

wherein the conference bridge comprises a concentrator, having means to identify the currently active input channels, and to transmit only those active channels over the multichannel audio connections as the plurality of individual audio channels, together with control information identifying the transmitted channels.

4.-11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) A method of providing teleconferencing services to a plurality of terminal equipments, in which a multichannel audio connection is provided from a conference bridge to each of the plurality of terminal equipments, each

multichannel audio connection comprising a plurality of individual audio channels, in which each of the plurality of terminal equipments receives individual audio channels through a respective one of the multichannel audio connections, and processes each received individual audio channel separately to provide a plurality of outputs, such output each representing a respective one of the other terminal equipments;

wherein the conference bridge identifies the currently active input channels and transmits only those active channels over the multichannel audio connections as the plurality of individual audio channels, together with control information identifying the transmitted channels.

13.-17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) A system as in claim 3, wherein the currently active input audio channels form a subset of input audio channels of the conference bridge.

19. (previously presented) A method as in claim 12, wherein the currently active input audio channels form a subset of input audio channels of the conference bridge.

20.-26. (canceled)

27. (previously presented) A system according to claim 3, wherein at

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least one of the terminal equipments has spatializer to combine the outputs representing each terminal equipment to provide a spatialized audio in which each terminal equipment is represented by a virtual sound source.

28. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein the outputs are processed to generate a spatialized audio output in which at least one of the terminal equipments is represented by a virtual sound source.

29.-30. (canceled)

31. (previously presented) A system as in claim 3, wherein each of the terminal equipments includes a demultiplexer for separating the individual audio channels received through a respective one of the multichannel audio connections.

32. (previously presented) A method as in claim 12, wherein each of the terminal equipments includes a demultiplexer for separating the individual audio channels received through a respective one of the multichannel audio connections.

33.-34. (canceled)